



STAFF BRIEFING

Date:	04.03.26
To:	All colleagues working within the health and social care partnership (for immediate circulation by Operational Management Team)
From:	Lesley Attridge, Locality Manager
Subject:	In-house sensory support service

In-house sensory support service

From 1 April 2026, Health & Social Care Moray (HSCM) will deliver the sensory support service directly, replacing the current commissioned arrangement with North East Sensory Services (NESS).

The service will be managed by Chris McLeod, Community Occupational Therapy Team Manager, reporting to Lesley Attridge, Localities Manager. Three NESS staff are in scope to transfer with the service under TUPE regulations and become Moray Council employees.

The core sensory support offer will continue unchanged, including:

- information and advice
- specialist equipment
- social work assessment
- rehabilitation training and support

Bringing the service in-house provides opportunities to retain and develop specialist expertise and to integrate sensory support more effectively with other HSCM services, including Occupational Therapy, as part of a long-term model of provision.

Transition planning is ongoing between HSCM and NESS to minimise disruption and ensure continuity of service, including work on the transfer of data and case files.

Further updates will be shared as key milestones are reached, including confirmation of the new team members and their roles, contact details and the referral process.

NESS is ending the lease of its Elgin premises. This affects the sensory social groups and classes delivered by NESS as part of its wider charitable activities. These activities sit out with the commissioned sensory support service and will not transfer to HSCM.

Any questions can be sent to @ gram.hscmcorporate@nhs.scot